Statement

Schemes for promotion of animal husbandry

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme
1	National Project for Cattle & Buffalo Breeding
2	Assistance to State Poultry/Duck Farms
3	Centrally Sponsored Fodder Development Scheme
4	Conservation of Threatened Livestock Breeds
5	Assistance to States for Control of Animal Diseases
6	National Project on Rinderpest Eradication
7	Foot & Mouth Disease Control Programme

Development of marine and inland fisheries

1204. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any innovative steps for all round development of marine and inland fisheries in order to give a fillip to the fisheries trade in the country, particularly in Maharshtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any suggestion alongwith some useful demonstrations from World Fish Centre Organization for the development of fishery business in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Using of sub-standard seeds

†1205. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers are using seeds of inferior quality causing adverse effect on agricultural production;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the efforts made by Government to provide good quality seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Seeds Act, 1966 provides the framework for regulating quality of certain seeds in the Country Notification of a variety is based on the Value for Cultivation and Usage test. Seeds of a notified variety can be sold only if they conform to the standards prescribed under this Act. The Act also provides for voluntary certification of varieties. Certification entails a third party guarantee by an independent agency and ensures genetic identity and genetic purity. The Central Seed Committee and Central Seed Certification Board and its various sub committees are the agencies set up under the Seeds Act to deal with all matters relating to quality control of the seeds. Seed Inspectors notified under the Seeds Act are empowered to draw the samples and varify the standards Violation of the Seeds Act is a punishable offence. Seed (Control) Order, 1983 another legal instrument, has been issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 in order to ensure distribution of quality seeds to the farmers. Seeds (Control) Order regulates seed production and distribution. The order provides for licensing of seed dealers, the modalities of inspection, sampling, punishment of dealers, suspension and cancellation of licences and has put in place a rigorous system of regulation and enforcement. However, the Seed Act and the Seed (Control) Order do not apply to farm saved seed.

Setting up of a funding agency

1206. PROF. P.J. KURIAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the fisheries sector has demanded for setting up of a funding agency to help for purchasing fishing vessels;

(b) whether Government are aware of the shortage of funding to this critical sector;

(c) the steps Government are taking to fund buying of fishing vessels to the sector to exploit the sea reasources; and

(d) the details of funding proposed and the agency which will do the actual processing?